

**DATE:** July 24, 2008**SUBJECT:** East Tennessee State University, Ph.D. in Early Childhood Education**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** East Tennessee State University has a long history of commitment to Early Childhood Education in bachelor's and master's programs in the field, the ETSU laboratory school, and in the ETSU Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning and Development. The proposed program will build on accredited undergraduate and graduate programs recognized by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

**PROPOSED START-UP DATE:** Fall 2008

**1.1.20A MISSION:** The proposed Ph.D. will expand the scope and depth of the existing National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) approved bachelor and master level programs in Early Childhood. The proposed program will produce graduates who contribute research in the field and faculty available to teach in higher education, resulting in opportunities for the education of a greater number of qualified Early Childhood professionals.

**1.1.20B CURRICULUM:** The proposed Ph.D. requires 69-72 semester credit hours distributed as follows:

Major field core	12
Concentration	15
Electives	9
Research	27
Apprenticeship	6-9

Eighteen new courses will be developed. The curriculum has been constructed to meet principles of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Students must complete two to three apprenticeships selected from interests in research, university teaching, development of teachers, early intervention, and early childhood leadership. Each requires 150 clock hours of mentored field experience.

**1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS:**

**Projected Program Enrollment and Productivity:**

Year	Full-Time Headcount	Part-Time Headcount	Total Year Headcount	FTE	Graduates
1	4	4	8	6	0
2	8	8	16	12	0
3	12	12	24	18	4
4	16	16	32	24	4
5	17	16	33	25	8

Applicants must meet Graduate School admission standards and additional competitive program admission criteria. Applicants must submit an essay that includes a written statement of career and educational goals, professional experience, and area of interest for the dissertation; hold a Master's degree in Early Childhood or a related field from an accredited university; and participate in an interview by members of the admission committee.

After satisfactory completion of 9 semester hours, the student will be under the direction of an Advisor and a Doctoral Advisory Committee. Degree completion requires a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the required 69 semester credit hours; a research apprenticeship and at least one additional apprenticeship in university teaching, development of teachers, early intervention, or early childhood leadership; successful performance on comprehensive written and oral candidacy exams; and a dissertation of publishable quality.

**1.1.20D FACULTY:** Currently 5 FTE faculty support the bachelor's and master's programs in Early Childhood. The increase of four additional faculty members is needed to implement the doctorate. Two faculty members will be added in Year 1, one added in Year 2, and one added in Year 3. The Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning and Development professional personnel are available to supervise, and mentor doctoral students. By year 4, the program will sponsor a total of seven fellowships: five institutionally funded and two funded from grants.

**1.1.20 E LIBRARY RESOURCES:** Library enhancements in the amount of \$1,000 per year for Years 2-5 will be used to for additional early childhood publications.

**1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION:** The proposed program will be housed in the Department of Human Development and Learning in the Clemmer College of Education and will be allied to the East Tennessee State University Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning and Development. A faculty program coordinator will have a two-course buyout during the academic year.

**1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES:** **The Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning and Development** is a resource for the program. The Center is a state,

national, and international program influencing policy and services that directly impact the lives of young children and their families. The Center was established in 1985 and was accorded Accomplished Center status in 1988. From its implementation until January 2007, the Center has obtained \$24 million in grant funding to provide research, training, and service in Early Childhood Education. The Center will provide opportunities for Ph.D. students to conduct research on a variety of topics and training in a number of areas. The Center now provides early intervention training for students in medicine, nursing, communicative disorders, psychology, social work, and other education fields. A number of programs within the Center outreach will provide professional experience for doctoral students. The **Tennessee Early Childhood Training Alliance (TECTA)** is a statewide, systematic training and professional recognition system to support and enhance the quality of early childhood education personnel in Tennessee. ETSU administers **Tennessee's Early Intervention System (TEIS)** federal program in the eight-county First District and also administers the grant-funded **Teaching Hands** intervention for children from birth to three years of age in rural areas of Northeast Tennessee. Other grant-funded early childhood programs administered out of the Center to ally with the proposed doctoral program are **Preschool Literacy Training Project**, providing technical assistance and training to personnel who work in preschools in the area; **Expanding Horizons**, a Department of Mental Retardation grant to provide home-based interventions; **East Tennessee Autism Training Project**, a professional development and technical assistance program; **Make a Difference**, an Tennessee Department of Education project addressing behavioral and learning needs of students with disabilities; **Annual Early Childhood Conference**, a professional development opportunity for the 1,100 early childhood and early childhood special education regional personnel; the **ETSU Child Study Center**, serving young children in full-year, full-day environments; **Little Buccaneers**, a child care center for ETSU students and personnel.

**1.1.20H STUDENT/EMPLOYER DEMANDS:** The needs analysis behind the proposed program highlights Tennessee's increased commitment to early childhood education, specifically in the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (pre-K) for Tennessee Act which saw the funding of 250 preschools in Tennessee in 2005 and an additional 237 in 2006. This state priority on early childhood education creates a continuing demand for trained personnel. ETSU has been a leader in early childhood pre-K program development and has six of the original pre-K pilot site classrooms in Tennessee. These programs provide models for the development and expansion of pre-K programs.

**1.1.20I COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONS:** N/A

**1.1.2J ACCREDITATION/EVALUATION:** The regularly-scheduled NCATE review slated for 2012 will include evaluation of the proposed program. Existing Early Childhood programs at ETSU are one of two Approved Programs of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) in the state. Vanderbilt is the other. The doctoral program will seek National Recognition from NAEYC as an advanced program.

**1.1.2K EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES:** One-time expenditures for computers for new faculty are projected. Classrooms in the College of Education building and in the Child Study Center are adequate to support the program.

**1.1.2L DUPLICATION:** The University of Memphis and Tennessee Technological University offer concentrations in early childhood education within doctoral programs. The University of Tennessee Knoxville is concurrently proposing a Ph.D. in Child and Family Studies in proposing independent degree status to a concentration that has long resided under the Ph.D. in Health and Human Sciences.

**1.1.20M EXTERNAL JUDGMENT:** Two external reviewers conducted a site visit and proposal evaluation. The reviewers were Dr. Stephen Fairchild, Professor Emeritus in Early Childhood Education and Associate Dean Emeritus at James Madison University, and Dr. Louise Swiniarski, Professor of Education, Salem State College (MA). The evaluators found strengths in exceptional faculty, curriculum, university support, and the association of the Center of Excellence in Early Childhood Learning and Development. The consultants found the required mentored apprenticeships a unique and strong aspect of the program requirements. Comments illustrating their views of the proposed program include: ETSU “will offer and conduct a successful program and produce highly qualified and highly marketable doctoral early childhood education graduates.” The consultants found a need for graduates and a continuing employment demand. They recommended program approval.

**1.1.20N COST/BENEFIT/SOURCE:**

**THEC Financial Estimate Form  
East Tennessee State University  
Early Childhood Education Ph.D.**

Five-year projections are required for baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate programs and certificates. Three-year projections are required for associate degrees and undergraduate certificates. Projections should include cost of living increases per year.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
<b>I. Expenditures</b>					
<b>A. One-time Expenditures</b>					
New/Renovated Space	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Equipment	4,000	2,000	2,000	-	-
Library	3,000				
Consultants	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-Total One-time	\$7,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$ -	\$ -
<b>B. Recurring Expenditures</b>					
<b>Personnel</b>					
<b>Administration</b>					
Salary	\$15,000	\$15,450	\$15,914	\$16,391	\$16,883
Benefits	3,150	3,150	3,150	3,150	3,150

Sub-Total Administration	18,150	18,600	19,064	19,541	20,033
<b>Faculty</b>					
Salary	\$111,000	\$163,530	\$217,636	\$224,165	\$230,890
Benefits	46,210	68,690	91,500	91,500	91,500
Sub-Total Faculty	\$157,210	\$232,220	\$309,136	\$315,665	\$322,390
<b>Support Staff</b>					
Salary	\$19,870	\$20,466	\$21,080	\$21,712	\$22,798
Benefits	15,700	15,700	15,700	15,700	15,700
Sub-Total Support Staff	\$35,570	\$36,166	\$36,780	\$37,412	\$ 38,498
<b>Operating</b>					
Travel	\$2,800	\$4,200	\$5,600	\$5,600	\$5,600
Printing	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment	2,900	1,000	2,500	2,000	-
Other	78,927	116,992	159,622	188,203	191,080
Sub-Total Operating	\$84,627	\$122,192	\$167,722	\$195,803	\$196,680
Total Recurring	\$295,557	\$409,178	\$532,702	\$568,421	\$577,601
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES (A+B)</b>	<b>\$302,557</b>	<b>\$411,178</b>	<b>\$534,702</b>	<b>\$568,421</b>	<b>\$577,601</b>
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
<b>II. Revenue</b>					
Tuition and Fees <sup>1</sup>	42,651	100,898	158,910	216,231	235,671
Institutional Reallocations <sup>2</sup>	234,797	259,352	324,118	299,732	288,650
Federal Grants <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Private Grants or Gifts <sup>4</sup>	25,109	50,928	51,674	52,458	53,280
Other <sup>5</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$302,557</b>	<b>\$411,178</b>	<b>\$534,702</b>	<b>\$568,421</b>	<b>\$577,601</b>

**Notes:**

1. In what year is tuition and fee revenue expected to be generated and explain any differential fees. Tuition and fees include maintenance fees, out-of-state tuition, and any applicable earmarked fees for the program. Instate maintenance fees will be generated in Year One, 2008-09. No out-of-state students are expected during Year One because of the projected approval date. Out-of-state tuition is expected to be generated for two students for 2009-10 and 2010-11 (each) and for three students for 2011-12 and 2012-13 (each). There are no applicable earmarked fees for the program. Both instate maintenance fees and out-of-state tuition were factored at a 5% increase per year based on 2007 fees.

2. Please identify the source(s) of the institutional reallocations, and grant matching requirements if applicable. The President assesses projected fund availability/recurring costs and establishes priorities with respect to expenditures from net revenue available. The program proposed represents a funding priority.

3. Please provide the source(s) of the Federal Grant including the granting department and CFDA number.

4. Please provide the name of the organization(s) or individual(s) providing grant(s) or gift(s).

The Center of Excellence currently has a \$75,656 Supportive Opportunities for All Children SOAC/CSC grant that will support two fellowships.

**1.1.30 POST APPROVAL MONITORING:** An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the first five years following approval. The review will be based on benchmarks established in the approved program proposal. At

the end of this period, campus, governing board, and Commission staff will perform a summative evaluation. The benchmarks include, but are not limited to, enrollment and graduation, program cost, progress toward accreditation, library acquisitions, student performance, and others set by the institution and agreed upon by governing board and Commission staff. As a result of this evaluation, if benchmarks are not met during the monitoring period, the Commission may recommend that the governing board terminate the program. The Commission may choose to extend the period, if additional time is needed and requested by the governing board.